**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A holding device for holding an item in connection with hardening of the item under elevated pressure in a pressure tank, comprising:

a base for supporting the item, the base including a duct;

a leaktight cloth positioned over the base, the item, and the duct;

a pump in fluid communication with the duct, the pump adapted to draw a vacuum between the base and the leaktight cloth;

~~at least one~~ a first support element and a second support element mounted to the base adjacent to one another along a continuous surface of the item, the continuous surface terminating at a first corner of the item and a second corner of the item, ~~each of which at least partially surrounds the lateral surfaces of the item~~ the first and second support elements ~~and are~~ arranged to support the item during hardening, the first support element having a first region located in contact with the first corner of the item,

~~at least one of the support elements being arranged in relation to the item in such a way that the support element presses, in a~~ wherein the first support element is pivotally mounted to the base at a pivot point located between the first corner of the item and the second corner of the item such that the first region ~~along its length,~~ of the first support element presses against the first corner of the item with a pressure that is elevated relative to the pressure-tank pressure, and ~~and, in~~ a second region of the first support element ~~along its length,~~ presses against the ~~item~~ continuous surface with a pressure that is lower relative to the pressure-tank pressure,

further wherein ~~the support element in~~ the second region of the first support element lies in abutment with the item essentially without exerting any pressure on the item~~, and the support element is fixedly arranged in the holding device at a pivot point~~.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The holding device according to claim 1, wherein [[it]] the holding device is arranged to hold an item containing a core and a beam frame surrounding [[a]] the core and including at least two beams for gluing the core to the beam frame and gluing the beams to one another, whereupon the first and second support elements are arranged to press the beams toward one another and lie in abutment with the item essentially without exerting any pressure against the item where the core is to be glued to the beam frame.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The holding device according to claim 1, wherein the pivot point is ~~chosen so~~ positioned such that the pressure exerted on the item by ~~in~~ the first region of the first support element is roughly 2-4 times higher than the pressure in the pressure tank.

7. (Withdrawn) A method for hardening together an item containing at least a core and a beam frame surrounding a core and including at least two beams comprising: gluing the core to the beam frame and gluing the beams of the beam frame to one another, arranging the unhardened item on an underlayer, applying support elements around the item to hold it together, the support elements to exert a differentiated pressure on the item, and introducing the unhardened item, on its underlayer and with the supporting elements, into a pressure tank for hardening.

8. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 7, wherein the support elements are caused to exert a pressure that is elevated relative to the pressure-tank pressure on the surfaces that are pressing the beams toward one another and lie in abutment with the item essentially without pressure on surfaces where the beams are glued to the core.

9. (New) The holding device according to claim 1, wherein the second support element is rigidly fixed to the base, and has a first end located in contact with the first support element and a second end located along the continuous surface at a distance from the second corner of the item.

10. (New) The holding device according to claim 1, wherein the second support element is rigidly fixed to the base, and has a first end located in contact with the first support element and a second end located along the continuous surface in contact with the second corner of the item.